

Hall Mills - 105.291 - correspondence - 1926.9.21 -  
I G T. JMP

*copies added.*

Mt. Tabor, N.J.  
September 21, 1926.

Rev. J. Mervin Pettit,  
New Brunswick, N.J.

My dear Mr. Pettit:

From the year 1888 to 1895, I was a member of St. John's Parish, entering very actively into its spiritual life, and therefore I am feeling very deeply for all the members of the Carpenter, Stevens families.

Mrs. Hall and I were confirmed in the same class by dear old Bishop Scarborough, prepared under the Rev. Elisa B. Joyce, and later I taught at the private school conducted by Mrs. Edwin Young. At that time the Frances Stevens of those days was an upper grade pupil, but Willie was under my care.

He was good hearted, generous to a fault, and impulsive in his friendships, and, having gained that, I became very fond of him. Many a time I have soothed him through some fancied trouble, and he immediately forgave the transgressor. I tell you this to show you his early nature which I am sure could not have changed, by reason of his peculiar temperament.

He was lovable and affectionate, and it was with true regret that I lost touch with him, as, since my marriage in 1895, I have seldom been in New Brunswick. I was married in St. John's, the funeral services over both my parents were had there, and my eldest daughter was christened by the incomparable Dr. Phelps, so my affections are centered very largely there and I am feeling very deeply the sorrow which has come to the parish. I believe most firmly in Mrs. Hall's innocence. My object in writing you is to encourage you in your belief in, and help to her. I only remember her as a sweet, girlish, happy dispositioned young person, entirely without guile. I am praying constantly for her, and if I could be of any practical service to her in this sad ordeal, no sacrifice would be too great.

I want to thank you for your public expression as quoted in the Herald-Tribune.

May God aid you in clearing the Carpenter fair name.

Most sincerely,  
Isabel Grover Tompkins  
(Mrs. Irving S. )